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WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

In Ala., Ga., Fla., Miss., Tex., Okla., Ark., Mo., La., N. C., Va., Ky., Tenn.

No. 204-41

NOV 27 1941

RELEASE: Immediate

Cotton farmers who were disappointed with the grade of this season's crop can revise their picking and ginning methods to boost returns from $1 to $10 a bale by adopting suggestions outlined in a new leaflet, "Cotton From Boll to Bale." Farmers may obtain copies of the leaflet, No. 211, by writing the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Grade of lint and quality of ginned seed are determined in a large part by the condition of cotton when brought to the gin, _____ explains.
(Name)
Through proper harvesting and handling, farmers can do much to make their crop more profitable and to reduce ginning problems. Differences in cleanness can vary hand-picked cotton by as much as two grades.

Excess moisture, trash, and dirt in the seed cotton all reduce the value of ginned lint, and if cotton is green, damp, or wet, the quality may be lowered by as much as two grades.

The leaflet points out that cotton quality is also reduced if open bolls are allowed to remain exposed to the weather too long. Rain, dew, sun, dust, wind, bacteria, and fungi have access to the fibers, causing discoloration of the cotton and impairing germination and milling qualities of the seed.

Dry-picked cotton gives the best results in ginning, but if picked while damp, cotton can be dried artificially at the gin if drying equipment is available, or it can be dried naturally through careful handling and storing, provided it is not so wet that the seed is soft.

# # #

November 12, 1941 (1671-41)

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

In All States

No. 205-41

RELEASE: Immediate

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NOV 21 1941
AGRICULTURE

EXTENSION EDITORS PLEASE NOTE: USDA Farmer's Bulletin 1422 "Udder Diseases of Dairy Cows" may be offered free, or you may wish to offer one of your own publications in this article.

NEW MASTITIS TREATMENT SHOWS PROMISE BUT STILL BEING TESTED

_____ dairy farmers who try to treat mastitis in their herds by injecting medicinal preparations up the teat canal and into the udder, are likely to do more harm than good, according to _____.

Recently, some investigators have found that certain chemicals, introduced into the udder through the teat canal, appear to cure one of the common forms of mastitis in a considerable percentage of cases. Some of these treatments show promise, says _____, but tests are still under way at several State experiment stations and at the U. S. Department of Agriculture's animal disease station, Beltsville, Md.

Even if final results of these tests indicate that some chemicals used in this manner are effective mastitis treatments, farmers should never use them without supervision of a qualified veterinarian, _____ points out. A person untrained in veterinary science is likely to injure the udder, perhaps permanently. Then too, accurate laboratory examination of milk samples must be made to know whether all the mastitis-causing germs have been killed and when treatment can be discontinued.

Farmers whose cows are troubled with chronic mastitis can keep it under control by a good system of management and sanitation prescribed by Federal and State disease control and dairy specialists. The usual recommendations include: (1) Determination of the infected cows by the strip-cup or other test; (2) milking healthy cows first, suspects second, and infected last; (3) washing udders, hands, and milking machines with germ-killing chlorine solution; and (4) when quarters become inflamed, using hot packs, massage, and milking frequently.

# # #

November 15, 1941

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

In Southern Region and Kentucky,
North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

No. 206-41

RELEASE: For week of November 24.

DEC 6 1941

WAR RESTRICTIONS
ON EXPORTS MAKE
QUOTAS NECESSARY

The present war crisis makes it especially important that every eligible cotton producer vote in the cotton marketing referendum to be held Saturday, December 13, _____, AAA chairman (or member of the county AAA committee) said today.

"As a result of the war, most of our world markets are cut off, and farmers must protect themselves from the bad effects of this situation by managing well their surplus supplies to fit actual needs. To do this they must make effective use of all features of the Farm Program, which includes marketing quotas and loans," _____ said.

He pointed out that American cotton exports have fallen from 6 million to about 1 million bales, and that such a drastic reduction in exports would normally result in bankrupt prices, but marketing quotas and the loan, together with other phases of the Farm Program, have helped hold prices near parity.

"Without the Farm Program, it is evident to all cotton producers that prices this year would be near an all-time low. The greatest hope of continued good prices lies in adjusting acreage to meet demands. Therefore, we must look to the Farm Program to hold prices near parity levels," _____ said, and added: "The loan allows farmers to withhold their cotton should prices become unsatisfactory."

In speaking of the effectiveness of the loan in boosting prices, _____ reminded producers that this year prices reached the highest level since 1929. The average loan rate this year was 14 cents a pound.

_____ further reminded farmers that if quotas are rejected in the coming referendum, the law provides that there can be no Government loans on cotton from the date of the announcement of the official results until August 1, 1943.

# # #

November 19, 1941

(1702-41)

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS
United States Department of Agriculture

In Southern Region and Kentucky,
North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

No. 207-41

LIBRARY
DEC 6 1941

RELEASE: For week of December 1

COTTON LOANS DEPEND
ON MARKETING QUOTAS

_____County cotton producers were urged this week to consider the important problems that face the American cotton industry, and to make every possible effort to vote in the cotton marketing quota referendum to be held Saturday, December 13.

_____, AAA chairman, reminded all cotton producers in the county that if a large national vote is polled, the Nation's leaders will be assured that cotton producers are studying world conditions and taking the initiative in settling their share of them.

_____ pointed out that no Government loan can be offered during any marketing year for which quotas are rejected. "Quotas and the loan go hand in hand to keep the marketing of cotton on an even keel. The loan has provided a method whereby producers can hold their cotton when prices are unsatisfactory. Because of the loan, the price of cotton has stayed close to parity throughout the present marketing year," he said. The reason there can be no loan when quotas are rejected is that it would be unwise for the Government to risk public funds in the form of cotton loans when the marketing of cotton was not stabilized by quotas.

"To reject the quotas and, consequently, the loan, would be to throw the production and marketing of an internationally important crop out of balance at a time when all industries in the Nation need to be pulling together at their maximum strengths," _____ said, and added, "Agriculture has shown the Nation, during previous times of national stress, that it can stay in the harness and pull as hard as any other industry, and it will continue to do so."

Every cotton producer, regardless of whether he is tenant, sharecropper, or owner, may vote in the referendum.

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1703-41

November 19, 1941.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

NOV 29 1941

In All States: No. 208-41

RELEASE: Immediate

BITS ABOUT "BUGS"

Onions in Minnesota, potatoes in New England, and wheat in Oklahoma were reported injured this fall by wireworms.

* * * * *

The U. S. Department of Agriculture reported fall armyworms abnormally abundant in New England and the Middle Atlantic States in October, with severe damage reported in Mississippi, Missouri, and Texas. Armyworms were also reported abundant in Nebraska.

* * * * *

Sections of Maryland and Virginia in the vicinity of Washington, D. C. this fall reported presence of the European corn borer for the first time. The borer was also reported for the first time in eight counties in southern Virginia. This insect was seriously abundant in Ohio and parts of Indiana, according to the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine. In Illinois about half of the counties are infested, with 26 counties reporting first infestations this year. The borer has been found for the first time in 4 additional counties in Wisconsin.

* * * * *

The southwestern corn borer caused considerable damage this year in southwestern Kansas and parts of Oklahoma.

* * * * *

U. S. entomologists report that the sorghum webworm was very destructive to feterita and other grain sorghums in Oklahoma, and parts of Texas, in October. The webworm was also reported in Indiana.

* * * * *

In the South Atlantic States and the Gulf Region the velvetbean caterpillar was reported generally active this fall.

* * * * *

The East Central States reported an increase in the population of the San Jose scale in October.

* * * * *

Weather conditions were favorable during October say U. S. Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine specialists, for development of Comstock's mealybug and for high populations of overwintering eggs in parts of Virginia and Ohio.

* * * * *

(more)

The green stinkbug destroyed many tomatoes, beans and peas during October over the southern half of Alabama.

* * * * *

Vetches, Austrian winter peas, and crimson clover were seriously damaged on about 200,000 acres in Oregon's Willamette Valley, this fall by garden slugs, says a report of the U. S. Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine.

* * * * *

The cabbage looper occurred in outbreak numbers during October in eastern Virginia and in damaging numbers in parts of Texas and Oklahoma.

* * * * *

During October flights of moths of the cotton leaf worm appeared in New England, the East Central States, and Nebraska.

* * * * *

U. S. Entomologists report that pines have been severely infested by the European pine shoot moth in areas in Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, and Massachusetts this fall.

* * * * *

Box-elder bugs were unusually numerous this fall throughout the Middle Atlantic, East Central, and West Central States, being particularly troublesome because they have been entering houses.

* * * * *

Screwworms were reported unusually abundant in parts of Indiana, Illinois, and Mississippi. Considerable loss among livestock resulted from these outbreaks.

# # #

November 27, 1941

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

LIBRARY DEC 3 1941 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

In All States

No. 209-41

RELEASE: Immediate

SELL SKIM MILK, FEED CALF MEAL
TO LOWER CALF-RAISING COSTS

_____ dairy farmers can reduce feed costs and at the same time release large quantities of skim milk -- now important as defense food -- by substituting a good calf meal for the skim milk they usually supply in the calf's ration, says _____.

In normal times, _____ points out, calf meals are seldom economical skim milk substitutes because skim milk is usually produced in surplus and has a low market value. Calf meals are used to some extent, however, on dairy farms in fluid milk markets where skim milk may be unavailable, and where dairymen would otherwise have to raise their calves on costly whole milk.

Because current demand for dairy products as defense food (including skim milk) now exceeds supply, prices have climbed to record highs. Many of the calf-meal grains, on the other hand, are still available in surplus and are relatively low in price. As a result of this new price relationship, dairy farmers with skim milk and a skim-milk market will find that it pays to sell their skim milk and raise calves on calf meals, according to _____.

Calf meals may be purchased ready-mixed, or may be mixed at home from farm grains and high-protein supplements. They should contain some protein from an animal source. On good calf meal and with good management, calves will generally be average in weight or a little above average at 6 months of age.

One home-mixed calf meal that gives good results when fed with limited quantities of whole and skim milk is composed of equal parts by weight of ground yellow corn, crushed or rolled oats, wheat bran, and linseed meal.

With this grain mixture, the calf is fed about 10 pounds of whole milk a day for the first 3 weeks along with as much meal and high quality legume hay as it will eat. During the fourth week skim milk is gradually substituted for whole milk in the ration, and after the fifth week the amount of skim milk is reduced at the rate of a pound daily. At 13 weeks, skim milk is discontinued entirely.

This plan of feeding requires about 250 pounds of whole milk and 400 to 425 pounds of skim milk -- a saving of about 1,500 pounds of skim milk as compared with the amount fed when calves are raised on skim milk to 6 months of age.

# # #

December 1, 1941.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

In Maine

No. 210-41

DEC 6 1941

RELEASE: Immediate

1941-42 POTATO STARCH DIVERSION PROGRAM SERVES MANY PURPOSES

The diversion of up to 5 million bushels of Irish potatoes this year under the starch-diversion program announced recently by the Department of Agriculture, will serve many purposes, according to _____.

"United States industry," Mr. _____ said, "is working to full capacity to meet National Defense and Lend-Lease requirements. Industry in this country will need roughly 400 million pounds of root starch this year, and will lean heavily upon domestic manufacturers for the commodity, since supplies coming normally from foreign countries have been reduced by war conditions.

"A part of this need is being supplied under the 1941-42 starch program, which provides a use for millions of bushels of low-quality potatoes. Because the diversion program encourages the use of low-grade potatoes for starch, market channels are supplied with food potatoes of better and more uniform quality. This benefits consumers by making a less wasteful product available and provides growers with a better market and a more uniform price."

The starch program is being conducted by the Surplus Marketing Administration. Growers who cooperated during 1941 in the Agricultural Conservation Program of the AAA are eligible to deliver diversion potatoes to any starch factory in Maine. The potatoes also can be delivered by a dealer (shipper) for the account of a grower, but it is required that the potatoes delivered be the property of a grower who has complied with his 1941 ACP potato acreage allotment and that payment be made directly to the grower or jointly to the grower and dealer if a lien exists.

For the proportion of potatoes, included in deliveries, that are of U. S. No. 2 grade or better and are not less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, the growers receive a total of not less than 90 cents a barrel, including a minimum payment of 60 cents from the factory and a diversion payment of 30 cents. For the culls included in deliveries, growers receive a minimum price of 25 cents a barrel paid by the factory only.

# # #

December 4, 1941

(1764-41)

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

In N.Y., Pa., N.J., Del., Me., R.I., Vt., Mass., N.H., Conn.

No. 211-41

JAN 16 1942

RELEASE: Immediate

FERTILIZED PASTURES NOT INJURED BY CLOSE GRAZING

_____ livestock men can increase pasture profits by periodical close grazing without subjecting rolling pasture land to increased erosion or water loss, if they keep the soil fertile by inclusion of legumes and use of adequate fertilizer, according to _____.

Recent tests at the Arnot Soil Conservation Research Station near Ithaca, N. Y., by the U. S. Soil Conservation Service show that various grasses in association with wild white clover provided almost complete control of erosion and allowed little loss of water on pasture land kept in high fertility by fertilizers.

Under conditions of low fertility, on the other hand, _____ points out that the types of grasses developed were unsatisfactory from point of view of productivity, and less effective in controlling erosion.

On land of low fertility, redtop produced a protective sward first. Poverty grass provided the thickest cover and greatest yield of herbage, but this herbage was unpalatable to livestock grazing it.

Better pasture management, _____ concludes, will help soil defense, and at the same time will help national defense by providing more feed for the production of meat and milk essential as defense foods.

# # #

December 10, 1941 (1786-41)

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

JAN 16 1942

In All States. No. 212-41

RELEASE: Immediate

WELL-DEVELOPED EWE LAMBS CAN
BE BRED IN FIRST HEAT PERIOD

_____ sheepmen can boost the life-time production of their ewes, and thereby increase profits and provide more wool and meat for national defense, by breeding ewes, that are adequately developed, for the first time as lambs instead of waiting till they are 18 months of age, according to _____.

Popular belief among sheepmen that ewes bred as lambs (9 to 10 months old) are stunted and less productive has led to the common practice of delayed breeding, so that the first lambs are born when the ewes are at least 2 years old. Recently completed studies by the South Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and the U. S. Department of Agriculture, however, show that for Hampshire sheep, well-fed, under farm-flock conditions, breeding ewes for the first time as lambs increases total lamb production without permanently stunting their growth.

In the studies, productivity of 84 pairs of Hampshire ewes born during an 8-year period was compared. One ewe of each pair was bred as a lamb during or near the time of her first heat period. The other was bred first at 18 to 19 months. Ewes in the group bred first as lambs produced a total of 50 more lambs at weaning than the 84 ewes in the group bred as yearlings during a 5-year period. In terms of pounds of lamb available for market, this is an advantage of 2,572 pounds.

Although the ewes bred as lambs averaged about 18 pounds less at mating time in the second year than ewes in the group bred for the first time as yearlings, the weight disadvantage was entirely overcome by the time both groups of ewes were approximately 2-1/2 years of age.

On the strength of these studies, _____ stockmen will find that it pays to breed their Hampshire ewes as lambs, if they are adequately developed, rather than delay breeding to 18 or 19 months of age, says _____.

# # #

December 11, 1941 (1791-41)

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

JAN 16 1942
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

In All States. No. 213-41

RELEASE: Immediate

ITEMS FOR FILLER

Living trees are being chemically treated to serve as death traps for elm bark beetles -- spreaders of the Dutch elm disease.

U. S. Department of Agriculture scientists have found that trees can be made especially attractive to beetles by injecting them with sodium chlorate. If a small amount of sodium arsenite is added to the sodium chlorate, beetles attacking the injected trees fail to develop new broods because of the high toxicity of arsenite to the young brood.

Entomologists predict that if this method of treatment proves practical under field conditions, it may be possibe to reduce the bark beetle population and the incidence of Dutch elm disease.

* * * * * * *

Injury to peach trees, reported by many orchardists to be caused by use of ethylene dichloride emulsion for peach borer control, was investigated by the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine.

Investigation revealed that the big majority of orchards reported to have been so damaged, were actually injured by sudden temperature drops which occurred during preceding winters. In most of the cases studied, investigators report that there were just as many trees injured in orchards that were not treated with ethylene dichloride as there were in similar orchards in the same locality that did receive this effective chemical treatment.

Under some soil conditions, however, use of ethylene dichloride emulsion is liable to cause injury to the trees, the Federal entomologists explain. Tests in cooperation with the Bureau of Plant Industry indicate that danger of such injury is more likely in heavy than in light soils, and that damage may occur with late treatments given when the temperature is very low, and when the soil is saturated with water.

* * * * * * *

A tank-mixed nicotine bentonite-soybean oil combination codling moth spray developed by the Vincennes, Ind., laboratory of the U. S. Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine has been producing more clean fruit and giving equal or better control of worms than a heavy lead arsenate-oil spray program in large-scale experiments at Vincennes.

Because the cost of materials is somewhat higher than for lead arsenate, most of the growers have stayed with the arsenate, although this nicotine mixture may prove the most economical when final results in yield and quality of fruit are considered.

# # #

December 12, 1941 (1799-41)

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

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JAN 14 1942
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

In All States. No. 214-41

RELEASE: Immediate

To correct a rather general mis-impression among _____ farmers in need of farm machinery, equipment, and repair parts, Priorities Division of the Office of Production Management, Washington, D. C., points out that "retail consumers cannot and must not be expected to produce preference rating certificates, when placing normal orders for finished goods."

In the confusion incident to attacks upon the United States by Axis powers, says OPM, many distributors of consumers' goods have told their customers they cannot sell to them unless their orders are accompanied by preference rating certificates. This seems to have been most prevalent among dealers who handle metal products, particularly in the farm machinery and hand-tool fields.

In the case of important civilian items as for example, farm machinery and spare parts for privately owned automobiles and trucks, Priorities Division has given assistance to manufacturers so that they may continue their production. Goods manufactured as a result of this assistance are then made available through the normal trade channels, and retail buyers in general do not need, and have not been issued, preference rating certificates.

# # #

December 18, 1941

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

JAN 14 1942
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

In All States

No. 215-41

RELEASE: Immediate

HORSE BOTS AND WORN-OUT SPARK
PLUGS BOTH STEAL FARM POWER

Getting rid of energy-robbing horse bots is like getting rid of worn-out tractor spark-plugs, says _____. Both are profit and power leaks that reduce productive efficiency of _____ farmers in their Food-for-Freedom campaign.

Because horsepower on the hoof is expected to be of growing agricultural importance for the duration of the war, the farm team should be kept free of bots and in top working condition, _____ points out. Bots interfere with normal digestion, compete with the horse for its food supply, and sometimes seriously irritate stomach and intestinal walls.

Botflies of various species lay eggs on forelegs, throat, nose, and lips of horses during summer and before the first hard frost in fall. The tiny bots hatch in a few days and either crawl into the horse's mouth, or work their way in when the horse rubs its legs with its lips. For about a month they burrow in the lining of the mouth, then pass into the stomach and intestines, where they spend the winter and grow to full size. During the following spring and summer they are eliminated with manure and develop into adult egg-laying flies.

Best treatment for killing bots is carbon disulfide given to the horse by a veterinarian. This month (December) or next is the best time for treatment, which is about 100 percent effective, and removes large intestinal roundworm and some of the other internal parasites as well.

Although it generally pays to treat horses or mules on a single farm, control efforts on a community or county-wide basis are still more effective. U.S. Department of Agriculture specialists say that botflies may be completely eliminated from an area by persistent treatment by all horse owners. Cost of treatment may be reduced too, if horses can be brought to central treating points and a tour-schedule worked out for the local veterinarian.

Plans for community treatment are available free from the Extension Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

December 18, 1941

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WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

In All States. No. 216-41

RELEASE: Immediate

LIBRARY BUREAU OF JAN 14 1942 AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

ED. NOTE: You may want to adapt this article to fruit growers in fruit production areas of your State.

Best defense against insects attacking truck crops is a well-timed offense, according to _____ and, _____ truck crop growers who delay ordering repair parts for dusting and spraying rigs, may not have equipment ready in time for effective action when the 1942 bug blitz begins.

The Priorities Division of the Office of Production Management has given a high preference rating to manufacturers of farm machinery repair parts, but only enough parts are being produced to meet growers' needs, as indicated by their orders. These orders must be placed as soon as possible to insure adequate production and timely delivery. _____ points out that growers do not need preference rating certificates to place orders for parts or machinery.

Now is the time to check over every piece of machinery that will be needed to prepare the soil, plant, cultivate, spray, dust, and harvest the 1942 vegetable crops, _____ suggests. It is particularly important to test pumps for pressure leaks and to clean last season's insecticides out of pipes and nozzles, if they have not already been cleaned.

Insecticidal residues gum up and corrode equipment, and fertilizers left in distributors are likely to clog and cause corrosion, too.

Of course the machinery should be stored under cover, and all moving parts, cutting edges, and soil scouring surfaces kept covered with oil or grease. Tires on rubber-tired implements can be made to last longer if the implements are blocked up in storage to keep weight off the tires, and if stored on a cinder floor, it is particularly important to keep them blocked up because sulfur in the cinders deteriorates the rubber.

Bumper yields of truck crops will be more important than ever in 1942, because of the increased need for vegetables.

# # #

December 18, 1941

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

In Nebr., S. Dak., N. Dak.,
Mont., Wash., Wyo., Oreg.

No. 217-41

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JAN 14 1942
AGRICULTURAL

RELEASE: Immediate

SUBSURFACE TILLAGE MAY
SAVE SOIL AND MOISTURE

Subsurface tillage -- loosening the top 6 or 7 inches of soil without turning under surface plant residue -- effectively reduced erosion and nearly doubled corn yields in a corn, oats, wheat rotation, as compared with corn grown on land clean-plowed in fall, in a 3-year test by the University of Nebraska in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, according to _____.

In the tests, one subsruface tillage was given in fall to kill the weeds where row crops followed small grain. By stirring the soil without plowing, weeds and grain residue remained on the surface as a mulch to catch snow and reduce run-off and erosion. In spring, when weeds started, another subsurface tillage was given to loosen the ground and cut off weeds and volunteer grain about 3 inches below the surface.

When one row crop followed another, a stalk cutter went over the field first, followed by the first subsurface tillage. Use of a treader helped eliminate small weeds, broke clods, made the seedbed finer, and packed the soil loosened by subsurface tillage. After these operations, _____ explains, the soil was ready for planting and a major portion of the plant residue remained on the surface of the soil. This method also allows for planting and cultivating without working the residue under the surface.

In addition to increasing crop yields through moisture conservation, stubble-mulch cultivation -- which includes any tillage method that leaves considerable plant residue on the surface -- has proved one of the most effective means of controlling soil erosion yet tried in semi-arid regions, _____ says. Many _____ farmers will find it a valuable supplement for their usual soil and moisture conservation practices.

# # #

December 19, 1941

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

LIBRARY JAN 14 1942

In All States

No. 218-41

RELEASE: Immediate

WELL-DEVELOPED DAIRY HEIFERS
MAY BE BRED AT 15 MONTHS

_____ dairy farmers can step-up milk production to take advantage of good milk price prospects and help meet Food-for-Freedom dairy goals, by breeding well-developed dairy heifers at 15 months instead of 18 to 20 months to bring them into production as soon as possible, according to _____.

This practice is not recommended for undersized animals, but with good care and management, heifers will be well grown and sufficiently developed to be bred successfully at 15 months, _____ explains.

For years, U. S. Department of Agriculture dairy research specialists have followed the practice of breeding heifers at 15 months both at Beltsville and at the Department's field stations. They report no significant decrease in size of mature cows as a result of early breeding.

To be kept for replacement, heifer calves will generally make sufficient growth for early breeding if they are started on fresh whole milk for at least a month, and then fed skim milk or a good calf meal along with farm grains, high quality legume hay, and good pasture. At 6 months, the skim milk or calf meal in the ration may be discontinued. By the time the heifer is four or five months old, she can be fed corn silage at the rate of about 2 pounds a day for each 100 live weight.

As the heifer grows older, the amount of roughage in the ration may be increased and amount of grain decreased, _____ points out. When fed all the high quality roughage she will eat, the 6 to 9 month old heifer will need about 3 pounds of grain daily, or 5 pounds of grain if the hay is of poor quality. Overfeeding grain to growing heifers is a waste of feed, and may make the animal overfat by breeding time, _____ contends.

# # #

December 19, 1941

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

In Tex., Okla., N. Mex., Ariz.,
Nebr., Kans., Calif., Colo., S. Dak.

No. 219-41

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JAN 14 1942
AGRICULTURAL
ECONOMICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

RELEASE: Immediate

MILO OR HEGARI CAN REPLACE
CORN IN GOOD POULTRY RATION

_____ poultrymen can get as many eggs per pullet from a well-balanced ration containing yellow milo or hegari as they can from an equally well-balanced ration containing corn, according to _____. What's more, _____ says, sorghum-fed pullets will compare favorably with corn-fed birds in body weight, egg weight, and fertility of hatching eggs.

He points to a recent test by the U. S. Department of Agriculture at the Southwest Poultry Experiment Station, Glendale, Arizona, comparing white corn, yellow milo, and hegari in the diet of 475 White Leghorn pullets during their first year of production.

Where diets were only fair to poor, birds getting corn as the main grain did better in every comparison than pullets fed milo or hegari. For example, the different grains made no difference in hatchability of eggs if the diets contained milk. Very low hatchability, however, was obtained from eggs saved from pullets fed diets containing hegari and no milk.

While grains in the ration did not affect egg quality, supplements fed along with the grains did, as far as yolk color was concerned. In the absence of alfalfa, egg yolks were ivory colored from pullets on white corn as well as from pullets on milo and hegari.

_____ concludes that milo and hegari can be substituted successfully for white corn in the diet of pullets if the ration is otherwise well balanced.

# # #

December 19, 1941

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

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AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

In All States

No. 220-41

RELEASE: Immediate

GARDEN CLEAN-UP NOW MAY
REDUCE 1942 INSECT DAMAGE

A preseason garden clean-up will help to reduce crop damage by insects in 1942 and is especially important if there is a shortage of some insecticides, according to _____.

U. S. Department of Agriculture entomologists point out that many kinds of insects live over winter in truck crop residue left on the land, in weeds, leaf litter, and under boards and trash piled on the ground. Others take refuge in ditches, waste places, and in and around storage houses.

Entomologists find it pays to plow under, feed, or destroy the plant residue, and remove litter and trash from garden sites as soon after harvest as possible, even when there is no possibility of a shortage of insecticides. This year garden sanitation is more important than ever because of the increased need for many vegetable crops as defense food.

Some commercial and home gardeners in _____ did not plow their land immediately after harvest this past season, _____ says, but there may still be time to reduce insect populations by plowing as soon as soil conditions permit. Land not subject to erosion may be plowed before winter weather is over to expose many insects and insect eggs to freezing, and to bury alive those hibernating in weeds and plant residue.

For example, tomato aphids and common stalk borers, which pass the winter as eggs on grass and weeds, are unable to survive if buried in the soil by plowing. Tomato hornworm and tomato fruit worm, which developed during the later part of the season on crop remnants, are similarly destroyed.

Peas are important as defense food, and growers in pea-growing sections can boost total output and profits as well if they work together on a community basis cleaning up brush-filled fence rows, isolated trees with rough loose bark, and abandoned orchards -- all favorite winter hibernating places of the destructive pea weevil.

Piles of pea vines and cannery refuge at pea shellers give winter protection to millions of pea weevils, says _____. Therefore, vines should either be fed to livestock or hauled out in the field and plowed under. When pea vines are dried for hay, it is particularly important that they be fed before the 1942 pea crop comes into bloom; otherwise hibernating pea weevils may emerge in great numbers and cause serious injury to the plants.

It's always a good practice to clean up storage houses, _____ adds, and when necessary, fumigate or otherwise treat stored beans and cowpeas to eliminate insects. Sprayers, dusters, and other gardening machinery and equipment should be stored under cover and all working parts covered with oil because of the difficulty in obtaining new machinery.

# # #

December 22, 1941

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

EXCLUSIVE TO EXTENSION EDITORS

United States Department of Agriculture

JAN 14 1942
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

In all States: No. 221-41

RELEASE: Immediate

ITEMS FOR FILLER

Shares with points of alloy steel on moldboard plows are good for a third more service than similar plowshares fitted with carbon steel points, according to results of tests by the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering at their tillage machinery laboratory near Auburn, Ala.

Other trials at this testing ground for farm-implement ideas showed that disks with the cutting edges beveled on the outside require from 18 to 25 percent more draft than disks of the same size, but with the cutting edge beveled on the inside.

* * * *

Fertilizer attachments that place fertilizer directly under the seed, may do more harm than good, according to field studies with 15 crops conducted in 11 States by the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering in cooperation with State experiment stations. Interesting exception was superphosphate, which seemed to benefit a few crops more when placed under the seed than when spread on top of it broadcast or by other methods.

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December 27, 1941

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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United States Department of Agriculture

In all States
Release: Immediate

No. 222-41

JAN 14 1942

ELECTRIC PIG BROODERS MAY
CUT EARLY SPRING PIG LOSS

_____farmers can reduce pig loss in early spring litters and increase rate of gain to weaning time by building a simple, electrically heated pig brooder in the corner of each farrowing pen, according to _____.

Home-made electric brooders tested by Purdue University in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture proved highly effective as pig-savers. Of 299 pigs farrowed alive in pens equipped with electric brooders, 245, or 82 percent were alive at weaning time. Only 70.6 percent of 113 pigs farrowed alive in pens without brooders were still alive at weaning time. Electricity used during the test period averaged only 27 kilowatt hours per litter.

Easy to build, the brooder is made by nailing a few boards tightly together from guardrail, about 10 inches above the floor, in the corner of the pen. A circular hole 14 inches in diameter is cut in the center of the boards, and a reflector with light socket is fitted over the hole. A 150 watt bulb supplies the heat.

Individual farrowing houses, such as "A-type" houses, may be fitted with electric brooders too. Some hog raisers set out A-type houses side by side, and wire the brooders from a single line with a contact switch at the entrance of each house.

Pig brooders not only protect pigs from cold, but lessen danger of their being crushed by the sow. Light and heat attract the pigs, and keep them in the corner under shelter of the guard-rail extension except while they are feeding.

Full details of construction are contained in a leaflet entitled "The Electric Pig Brooder," available free from the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

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December 27, 1941

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In all States

No. 223-41

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JAN 14 1942
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

RELEASE: Immediate

LESS INSECT DAMAGE IN 1942 IF
ORCHARD GETS GOOD CLEAN-UP NOW

Because 1942 Food-for-Freedom fruit goals call for maximum production and minimum waste, _____ suggests that _____ fruit growers follow a 6-point orchard clean-up program this winter to help reduce fruit damage by insects next season. This program may prove especially helpful in 1942 if there should be a shortage of some insecticides.

U. S. Department of Agriculture entomologists point out that while a clean-up program will not take the place of spraying, it will be of great assistance if the spraying program must be curtailed because of a shortage of insecticides, spraying equipment, or man-power.

The following program is suggested:

1. Proper pruning to permit more efficient spraying and to remove stubs, and split, broken, and dead branches which serve as overwintering shelters for the worms. Pruning should be flush with the point of origin. Cover cuts more than 2 inches in diameter with wood-preserving paint to hasten healing and prevent rotting. Clean old wounds, crotches, cracks, and cavities of all debris. Burn all prunings to kill insects hibernating in them.

2. If trees have not been scraped and banded, scrape them now. Cover ground at base of tree to catch bark and larvae removed by scraping, and burn them. Don't pare down to live bark. If chemically treated bands have been used on the trees, remove old bands and burn to kill hibernating larvae that may be underneath, before moths emerge in spring.

3. Keep the "floor" of the orchard free of heavy weed growth, rank cover crops, and coarse mulching material; all are excellent for protecting insects during winter.

4. Remove and burn all trash and debris scattered about the orchard such as boards, broken crates, and sacks, under and in which insects are liable to hibernate.

5. Screen all openings in packing houses and storehouses so that moths which develop within will be unable to leave and infest nearby orchards. Packing houses and storehouses are among the most serious sources of infestation. Roadside stands near orchards should be similarly screened.

6. Crates, baskets, and prop poles which furnish likely sites for insect hibernation should be stored in screened sheds or storehouses during the spring and early summer when moths are emerging. If this is not practical, they should be dipped in boiling water to kill codling moths before the moths emerge from their cocoons.

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United States Department of Agriculture

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JAN 14 1942
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

ORCHARDISTS CAN REDUCE
CODLING MOTH INFESTATION
BY SCREENING STOREHOUSES

_____ orchardists can reduce fruit damage by apple worms (codling moths) next summer in an easy, inexpensive way, by screening packing-houses, storehouses, and roadside fruit stands in spring to prevent moths from emerging to infest the orchard, says _____.

State and U. S. Department of Agriculture entomologists point out that thousands of codling-moth larvae are brought into the warehouse or roadside stand with the fruit at harvest time. During May, June, and July they emerge as moths and heavily infest the orchard in the vicinity of such buildings. Often this local infestation is the source of continual reinfestation extending through the entire orchard as the growing season progresses. Seasonal protection can be gained by covering all openings with a cheap grade of cloth such as cheesecloth.

Stopping infestation at the beginning of the season is far more effective than anything the orchardist can do later, _____ explains. For example, one pair of moths from overwintering larvae could produce enough descendants, if all the descendants lived, to damage about 167 bushels of apples. One pair of moths from first-brood larvae, however, could produce only enough descendants to damage about 6 bushels.

Although screening will not take the place of spraying, it will be of great benefit if the spray program must be curtailed because of a shortage of some insecticides, spraying equipment, or manpower.

Good fruit price prospects and national defense need for maximum production of high quality fruit and minimum waste, should be incentives for _____ orchardists to turn insect winter shelters into insect death traps by screening, _____ predicts.

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December 29, 1941

RESERVE
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Missing: 225